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The First Post Houses.

The first posts are said to have originated in the regular couriers established by Cyrus about 550 B. C., who carried post horses throughout the kingdom of Persia. Augustus was the first to introduce this institution among the Romans, 31 B. C., and he was imitated by Charlemagne about 800 A. D. Louis XI. was the first sovereign to establish post houses in France owing to his eagerness for news, and they were also the first institution of this nature in Europe. This was in 1470, or about 2,000 years after they were started in Persia.

In England in the reign of Edward IV. (1481) riders on post horses went stages of the distance of twenty miles from each other in order to procure the king the earliest intelligence of the events that passed in the course of the war that had arisen with the Scots. A proclamation was issued by Charles I. in 1631 that, "whereas to this time there hath been no certain intercourse between the kingdoms of England and Scotland, the king now commands his postmaster of England, for foreign parts to settle a running post or two between Edinburgh and London to go thither and come back again in six days."

Helter Skelter.
"Helter skelter" has been suggestively defined as a jingling expression, vaguely imitating the hurried character of feet rapidly and irregularly moved. Most dictionaries, however, led astray probably by the ordinary orthography, have missed the true etymology of this phrase. It should be "helter kelter."

"Helter" is an old word for "bang," probably connected with halter, and "kelter" is used by old writers in the sense of "order" or the proper state. Thus Barrow, the divine, says, "If the organs of prayer be out of kelter how can we pray?"

"Helter kelter," therefore, is literally "bang order" and means, "Oh, hang order; let us do it, or let it take its chance." Ben Jonson in "Every Man in His Humor" writes, "Helter kelter, bang sorrow, care'll kill a cat," and Shakespeare, using it to express rush and hurry, says, "Helter kelter have I rode to thee."

Understood His Art.

Baron von Steuben was the drillmaster of the Continental army at Valley Forge. At first the men in the ranks did not know the manual exercise; many of the officers knew little or nothing of maneuvering. One of the latter turned out for inspection in a dressing gown. "Himmel und erde!" cried the baron. "What kind of creature is this?" Baron von Steuben was choleric and profane, but he understood his art. He swore at the ragged Continentals in both German and French, but he taught them the value of drill and discipline. When he had chastised all the French and German oaths he knew he would turn to his aid. "Come here, Herr Hauptmann, and help me curse these half-bred heads." But he turned the undisciplined militia into well drilled troops. Never again was the enemy able to laugh at "Mr. Washington's rotten regiments of ragamuffins."

A Nickname For Barrett.

Lawrence Barrett, the tragedian, was subject to dyspepsia, and when he was suffering from that disorder he was cold and distant toward his company. One irreverent fellow always refused, however, to be suppressed. He said one day: "Just look at Cassius. He looks as solemn and righteous as if he'd swallowed the sword of justice. Let's call him the Scabbard." And the Scabbard he was—out of his bearing—for the rest of that season.

An Insinuation.

"What I want," said the coy maid of more or less uncertain years, "is a hat that will suit my complexion."

"Oh," exclaimed the milliner, with sudden inspiration, "I have a hand painted hat in the window that I'm sure will be just what you want."

Chattanooga News.
Disappointed.
He-I hear that your engagement is broken.

Femina-Yes; he acted horribly.

He-But I thought that you broke it?

Femina-So I did, but he made absolutely no fuss about it.—Yale Record.

A Test.
"He has been mentioned as a candidate for office very frequently."

"Yes," answered Farmer Cornetossel. "The only trouble is that every time anybody mentions him the other fellows laugh."—Washington Star.

His Opinion.
"Yes, he's a confirmed bachelor. He says there is safety in numbers."

"Safety in numbers?"

"Yes. He says two run a good deal better than one."—New York Times.

A Talker On.
Harry (looking at his whitened coat and gloves)—That isn't much of a compliment to Charlie's complexion.

Charles—I should say not. It's a regular talker off.—Boston Transcript.

Patents Issued.

Patents issued to Jerseymen and reported for the CITIZEN by Drake & Co., solicitors of patents, corner Broad and Market Streets, Newark, N. J.:

Making multi-color printing surfaces, A. von Beust, Orange; rotary motor, E. R. Douglas, East Orange; apparatus for testing the balance of wheels, O. J. A. Helms, Newark; window screen, W. C. Hering, Newark; conductor's push, R. J. Krauthorn, Newark; steam-winding and setting watch, E. Kuhn, East Orange; jewelry and producing same, W. A. Mallet, Hackensack; dress-supporting pin, C. Matternleh, Newark; generating electricity, J. H. Reid, East Orange; gas battery, J. H. Reid, East Orange; machinery for folding paper, R. C. Seymour, South Orange; electric switch, H. O. Swoboda, East Orange; automatic return feed mechanism for phonographs, G. Wood, East Orange; steam generators, L. E. Wright, Newark. Designs—Finger ring, G. B. Horth, Hudson Heights.

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Now is the time to clean carpets. If you want your carpets taken up, cleaned and relaid, send word to D. Douglass, No. 9 Park street, Montclair. Mr. Douglass has had years of experience in carpet cleaning, and has a large patronage in this town, Glen Ridge and Montclair. Those intending to move can have their carpets taken up, cleaned and relaid on short notice. The work will be well and promptly done.—Advt.

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Licensed by Board of Health. Odorous Excavating orders promptly tendered to at reasonable rates. Apply to or address RICHARD MAXWELL, No. 35 Clinton Street, Hudsonfield.—Advt.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

As required by an act entitled "An act to provide for submitting proposed amendments to the constitution of the State to the electors thereof," approved April 8, 1903, notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, the twenty second day of September, 1903.

SPECIAL ELECTION.
Will be held in the several election districts or precincts of this State, at such places as the clerks of the several townships, cities and municipalities of the State shall provide to enable the electors qualified to vote for members of the Legislature, to vote for or against each of the following proposed amendments to the Constitution.

ARTICLE V.
EXECUTIVE.

1. Insert in lieu of paragraph 10 a new paragraph, as follows:
"10. The governor, or person administering the government, the chancellor and the attorney general, or two of them, may, upon the request of the electors, call a special election, to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of the month of November, to elect a governor, a chancellor and an attorney general, to serve for the term of one year, and to fill the vacancies in the office of governor, chancellor and attorney general, in all cases except impeachment."

ARTICLE VI.
JUDICIARY.

1. Insert in lieu of Section II a new section as follows:
"1. The court of errors and appeals shall consist of a chief justice and four associate judges, or any four of them."
2. In cases any judge of said court shall be unable to sit, or any judge of said court shall be disqualified for the time being to discharge the duties of his office, the governor, or the chancellor or the chief justice, or any two of them, may, upon the request of the electors, call a special election, to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of the month of November, to elect a governor, a chancellor and an attorney general, to serve for the term of one year, and to fill the vacancies in the office of governor, chancellor and attorney general, in all cases except impeachment."

3. The jurisdiction heretofore exercised by the supreme court by writ of error shall be exclusively vested in the court of errors and appeals; but any writ of error pending in the supreme court at the time of the adoption of this amendment shall be proceeded upon as if no change had taken place.

Section IV.
1. Insert in lieu of paragraph 1 a new paragraph, as follows:

"1. The court of chancery shall consist of a chancellor and such number of vice-chancellors as shall be provided by law, each of whom may exercise the jurisdiction of the court; the court shall make rules governing the hearing of causes and the practice of the court where the same is not regulated by statute."

Section V.
1. At the end of paragraph 1 add the following:
"The court may sit in divisions at the same or different times and places."

Section VI.
1. Insert in lieu of paragraphs 1 and 2 the following:

"1. The court of common pleas shall be constituted and held in each county in such manner as may be provided by law."

ARTICLE VII.
CIVIL OFFICERS.

Section II.
1. Insert in lieu of paragraph 1 a new paragraph, as follows:

"1. Judges of the court of errors and appeals, justices of the supreme court, the chancellor, the vice-chancellors and the judges of the circuit court and of the court of common pleas shall be nominated by the governor and appointed by him with the advice and consent of the Senate; all persons now holding any office in the judicial department, except the judges of the court of errors and appeals as heretofore existing, shall continue in the exercise of the duties of their respective offices according to their respective commissions or appointments; the judges of the court of errors and appeals, except those first appointed; the justices of the supreme court, the chancellor and the vice-chancellors shall hold their offices for the term of seven years, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation which shall not be diminished during the term of their appointments; and they shall hold no other office under the government of this State or the United States; the judges of the court of errors and appeals first appointed shall be appointed one for three years, two for five years and two for seven years; judges of the court of common pleas shall hold their offices for the term of five years."

Section III.
Strike out paragraph 3.

Martin J. Callahan,
CONTRACTOR.

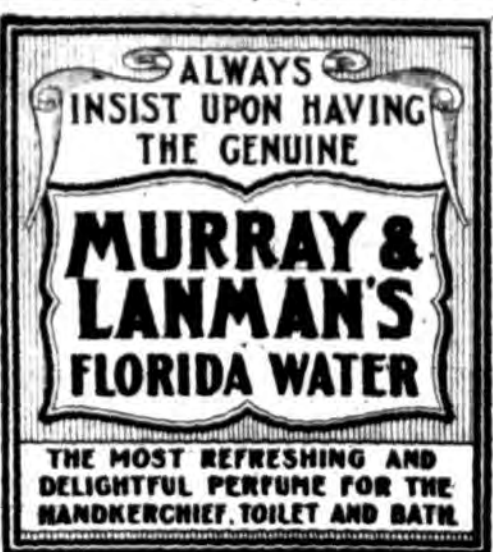
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Delhi, the Gem Market.

Delhi remains the center of all Indian art industries. The most skillful jewelers and gem cutters, painters, carvers, embroiderers and craftsmen whose creations could tempt the purse or minister to the luxury of the great and lesser Moguls have gathered there for centuries, and trade habits are but slowly broken. Along Chandi Chalk plump merchants in snow white clothes and tiny jeweled turbans invite one to their whitewashed, felt floored inner rooms, and there, treading catlike in stocking feet, they unroll gold and silver embroideries, Kashmir shawls and "camel's hair" stuffs and cover the corners of floor space with jewels.

Necklaces, girdles, the queen's ornaments are drawn from battered boxes, scraps of paper, cotton cloth or old bangles. Nothing seems quite as incongruous in this land of the misty and the incongruous as the way in which the jewels of a rajah are produced from old blue-tinted, pickle bottles and marmalade jars. One buys the gems of a temple goddess, and they are laid in grubby cotton wool and packed in rusty little tin boxes of a crudity inconceivable.—From Eliza Ruhamah Siddons' "Winter India."

Superstition of the Unlucky Thirteen.

When King Arthur founded the famous round table he requested Merlin, the enchanter, to arrange the seats. Merlin arranged one set of seats to represent the apostles. Twelve were for the faithful adherents of Jesus Christ and the thirteenth for the traitor Judas. The first were never occupied save by knights distinguished for their achievements, and when a death occurred among them the seat remained vacant until a knight surpassing him in heroic and warlike attainments should be considered worthy to fill the place. If an unworthy knight sought the chair he was repelled by some magic power.

The thirteenth seat was never occupied but once. The story goes that a naughty and insolent Saracen knight sat down upon it and was immediately swallowed up by the earth. Ever after it was known as the "perilous seat," and hence as the celebrated knights of the round table are said to have been, not one ever had the courage to sit on the thirteenth chair, and the superstition against it still survives.

Watch a Horse's Ears When Driving.

Whether you drive a single horse or a team the principle are the same, but in driving a pair see to it that each horse does his share of the work and no more. A pair of horses, moreover, unless well driven are sure to get in the habit of wandering over the road. To drive well you must keep your eye and your mind on the horse. Watch his ears. They will be pricked forward when he is about to stop, drop when he is tired, fly back just before he "breaks" (into a gallop) and before he kicks. Before kicking, too, a horse usually tucks in his tail and hunches his back a little. When you observe any of these indications, speak to him sharply and pull up his head.

Gypsies and the Property of the Dead.

The custom of burying the property of the dead in their graves has always been followed by the true Romany gypsies. It is due to some old tradition of ill luck attending the possession of an article whose former owner is gone, and much valuable property is buried in this belief. There is also a sentiment among gypsies against the possession of anything that has belonged to a dead person, because it serves to remind the living of the departed and inspire in them a dread of death. The custom of burying their property with gypsy dead dates from the earliest history of the Romany tribes.

First Test of the Air Pump.

The first public test of the air pump was in 1654 by its inventor, Otto von Guericke, in the presence of Emperor Ferdinand of Germany. Guericke applied the carefully ground edges of metallic hemispheres, two feet in diameter, to each other. After exhausting the air by his apparatus he attached fifteen horses to each hemisphere. In vain did they attempt to separate them because of the enormous pressure of the atmosphere. The experiment was a great success.

An Engraver's Report.

The family doctor had been summoned hastily, and he climbed the tenement stairs with a grave face. A woman was awaiting him in the doorway of a flat. "I understand little Tommy has swallowed a quarter," he said. "Where is he?" "Oh, doctor, I'm glad to tell you we've made a mistake," she said lightly. "It wasn't a quarter after all. It was only a nickel."—New York Press.

Boy Soldiers in South America.

In Venezuela, Colombia and other South American countries it is no uncommon thing to see boys of ten or twelve years of age or even younger carrying rifles and marching to battle with the armies which fight in the civil wars of those lands. These boy soldiers are usually of Indian blood, and they fight quite as well as the oldest veterans.

As a Natural Result.

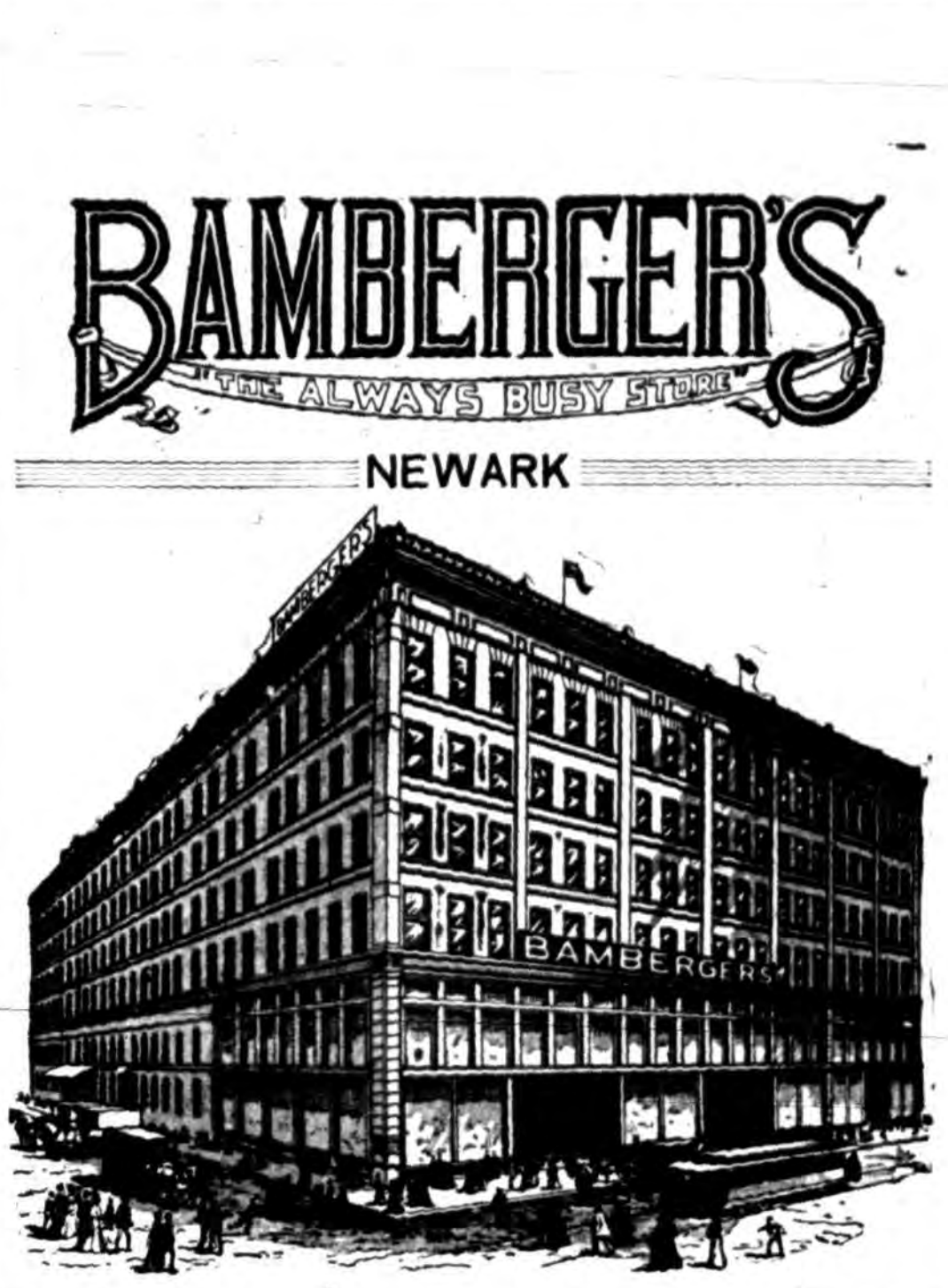
Mrs. Secondtime (peevishly)—My first husband used to let me have my own way in everything.

Mr. S.—And what were the consequences?

Mrs. S.—He died.

No longer respects a man who works, but a hard working man rather looks up to a man who is smart enough to live in idleness.—Atlantic Globe.

Some people are like a river. The only way they can attract attention is by going on a rampage.



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